

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 003155

EXDIS

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QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 003155

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, US

SUBJECT: UNDERSECRETARY SISCO'S TOUR D'HORIZON WITH
TURKISH AMBASSADOR

1. AMBASSADOR ESENBEL, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO WASHINGTON AFTER CONSULTATION IN ANKARA, CALLED ON MR. SISCO JANUARY 6 AT HIS OWN REQUEST TO RAISE A WIDE RANGE OF BILATERAL AND THIRD-COUNTRY ISSUES.

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2. US-TURKISH BASE NEGOTIATIONS. ESENBEL SAID GOT IS EAGER TO RECEIVE US VIEWS ON HOW US MIGHT BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE CENTRAL TURKISH CONCERN THAT THERE BE SPECIFIED QUANTUM OF US MILITARY ASSISTANCE GUARANTEED TO TURKEY DURING 3 TO 5 YEAR LIFE OF NEW DEFENSE AGREEMENT. ACCORDING ESENBEL, GOT BELIEVES OTHER ISSUES IN NEGOTIATIONS WILL FALL INTO PLACE ONCE ASSISTANCE ISSUE IS RESOLVED. SISCO NOTED THAT ASSISTANCE AND RELATED MATTERS ARE UNDER ACTIVE, HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION WITHIN USG AND THAT AMBASSADOR MACOMBER WILL BE RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

3. CAGLAYANGIL VISIT TO WASHINGTON. IN REPLY TO ESENBEL'S QUESTION ABOUT TIMING, MR. SISCO SAID WE UNDERSTAND GOT HAS PROPOSED FEBRUARY 12-13, AND THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO US. UNDERSECRETARY SAID IT IS US HOPE THAT BY TIME FON MIN

COMES, US AND TURKISH NEGOTIATORS WILL HAVE REFINED ISSUES IN THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS TO THE POINT WHERE THE SECRETARY AND FON MIN CAN REACH FINAL AGREEMENT.

3. CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. REFERRING TO CAGLAYANGIL'S DECEMBER 31 MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY (STATE 000013), ESENBEL SAID SECRETARY AND OTHER FRIENDLY FOREIGN MINISTERS MUST DO WHAT THEY CAN TO KEEP MAKARIOS FROM "INTERFERING AND IMPOSING CONDITIONS" FOR RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. ACCORDING ESENBEL, DENKTAH AND TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY ARE RELUCTANT TO RESUME TALKS AS LONG AS MAKARIOS "CREATES PROBLEMS". SISCO GAVE ESENBEL COPY OF SECRETARY'S REPLY TO CAGLAYANGIL (STATE 1476) AND SAID US GLAD TO READ IN FON MIN'S MESSAGE THE ASSURANCE THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO URGE DENKTASH TO RESUME TALKS. SISCO THEN EXPRESSED CONCERN AT RECENT INDICATIONS FROM NEW YORK THAT TURKISH SIDE HAS NOT IN FACT YET AGREED TO DATE AND PLACE FOR TALKS' RENEWAL. UNDERSECRETARY EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF EARLY RESUMPTION TO TURKEY'S INTERNATIONAL STANDING AND TO ITS IMAGE IN THE US. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER IF ALL PARTIES TO NEGOTIATIONS REFRAINED FROM UNHELPFUL PUBLIC COMMENT, SISCO SAID NONETHELESS THAT SUCH STATEMENTS ARE NOT THE CENTRAL REALITY IN THE SITUATION. HE CONTINUED THAT THE CENTRAL REALITY IS THAT A FRAME-SECRET

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WORK FOR RENEWING NEGOTIATIONS IS AVAILABLE AND WAITING. UN SYG IS TRYING TO GET PARTIES TO AGREE ON DATE AND VENUE WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. WE THINK GREEKS ARE PREPARED TO RESUME SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS. BURDEN IS NOW ON ANKARA TO ACCEPT A DATE AND PLACE, THUS IMPLEMENTING GENERAL UNDERSTANDING THAT DEVELOPED AT BRUSSELS MEETINGS IN DECEMBER. NO ONE WILL UNDERSTAND IF TURKEY TRIES TO DELAY TALKS. WHILE GOT MAY ENTERTAIN DOUBTS ABOUT HOW SERIOUSLY GREEK

SIDE WISHES TO NEGOTIATE, SAID SISCO, PROOF OF PUDDING WILL BE IN THE EATING -- I.E., GO TO NEGOTIATING TABLE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS. HE NOTED THAT, INTER ALIA, EARLY RESUMPTION OF TALKS AND CONSTRUCTIVE TURKISH ATTITUDE IN TALKS ARE CRITICAL TO UPCOMING CONGRESSIONAL DECISIONS ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY.

4. FY 76 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BILL. ESENBEL ASKED WHERE LEGISLATION PRESENTLY STANDS AND NOTED HIS DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT WITH HUMPHREY SUBCOMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION THAT DOLS 25 MILLION BE ALLOCATED TO TURKEY IN GRANT ASSISTANCE THIS YEAR. MR. SISCO SAID: (A) MANY LEGISLATIVE STEPS LIE AHEAD BEFORE WE SHALL HAVE A FINAL BILL; (B) WHILE CONGRESSIONAL CALENDAR IS NOT YET CLEAR, FLOOR ACTION COULD COME SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY; AND (C) HUMPHREY SUBCOMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDED FIGURE FOR TURKEY IS "RIDICU-

LOUSLY LOW". UNDERSECRETARY AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT GOT CAN INFLUENCE CONGRESSIONAL DECISIONS FOR BETTER OR WORSE BY ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID THAT WHEN HIRC CHAIRMAN MORGAN AND SEVERAL OF HIS COLLEAGUES VISIT ANKARA NEXT WEEK THEY WILL BE LOOKING FOR SIGNS OF TURKISH FLEXIBILITY TOWARD THE NEGOTIATIONS.

5. C-130 AIRCRAFT WING MODIFICATION. NOTING THAT GOT WILL SEND FIRST OF FOUR C-130'S TO US FOR WING MODIFICATION BY LOCKHEED LATER THIS MONTH, ESENBEL SAID GOT WISHED US ASSURANCE AIRCRAFT COULD BE RE-EXPORTED IF EMBARGO REIMPOSED. UNDERSECRETARY SAID: (A) IT IS OUR PRESENT BELIEF THAT TOTAL EMBARGO LIKE THAT OF LAST YEAR WILL NOT BE REIMPOSED; (B) IF EMBARGO WERE REIMPOSED, ADMINISTRATION WOULD DO ITS BEST TO PERSUADE CONGRESS TO PERMIT RE-EXPORT; (C) WE OBVIOUSLY CANNOT
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GUARANTEE CONGRESS WOULD AGREE TO EXPORT; (D) IN SUM, IT IS OUR JUDGMENT TURKS ARE RUNNING NO GREAT RISK IN SENDING AIRCRAFT HERE.

6. UNDERSECRETARY ALSO DISCUSSED MIDDLE EAST, ANGOLA, DETENTE, AND SALT II BRIEFLY WITH ESENBEL AT LATTER'S REQUEST.

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